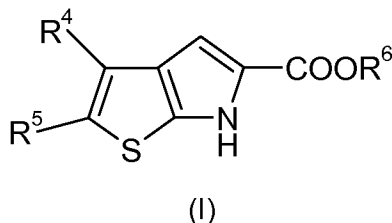


Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (previously presented) A process for preparing a compound of formula (I)

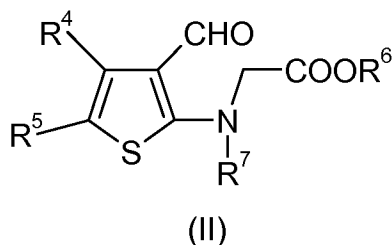


wherein

R^4 and R^5 are independently selected from hydrogen, halo, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, fluoromethyl, difluoromethyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, amino, carboxy, carbamoyl, mercapto, sulphamoyl, ureido, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkanoyl, C_{1-6} alkanoyloxy, N -(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, N,N -(C_{1-6} alkyl) $_2$ amino, C_{1-6} alkanoylamino, N -(C_{1-6} alkyl)carbamoyl, N,N -(C_{1-6} alkyl) $_2$ carbamoyl, C_{1-6} alkylS(O) $_a$ wherein a is 0 to 2, C_{1-6} alkoxycarbonyl, C_{1-6} alkoxycarbonylamino, N -(C_{1-6} alkyl)sulphamoyl, N,N -(C_{1-6} alkyl) $_2$ sulphamoyl, C_{1-6} alkylsulphonylamino, and C_{1-6} alkylsulphonyl- N -(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino; and

R^6 is hydrogen or a protecting group,

which process comprises cyclisation of a compound of formula (II)



wherein

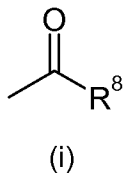
R^4 , R^5 , and R^6 are as defined in relation to formula (I); and

R^7 is a nitrogen protecting group; and

removing protecting group R^7 , and thereafter if desired or necessary, removing any protecting group R^6 to obtain the corresponding carboxylic acid.

2. (previously presented) A process according to claim 1, wherein the protecting group R^7 is removed during the cyclisation.

3. (previously presented) A process according to claim 1, wherein in a structure of formula (II), R⁷ is a group of sub-formula (i)

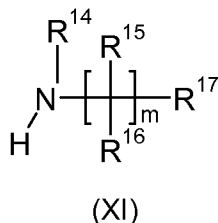


wherein R⁸ is a straight chain alkyl group of from 1 to 6 carbon atoms.

4. (previously presented) A process according to claim 1, wherein R⁴ and R⁵ are independently selected from hydrogen, halo, nitro, cyano, fluoromethyl, difluoromethyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, carboxy, carbamoyl, sulphamoyl, C₁₋₄alkyl, C₂₋₄alkenyl, C₂₋₄alkynyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy, C₁₋₄alkanoyl, and C₁₋₄alkanoyloxy.

5 - 10. (cancelled)

11. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, for the production of a second compound of formula (I) where R⁶ is hydrogen, further comprising reacting a first compound of formula (I) with an amine of formula (XI),



where R¹⁴ is selected from hydrogen and C₁₋₈alkyl;

m is an integer of from 0 to 4;

each R¹⁵ is the same or different and is selected from hydrogen, halo, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, amino, carboxy, carbamoyl, mercapto, sulphamoyl, ureido, C₁₋₆alkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl, C₂₋₆alkynyl, C₁₋₆alkoxy, C₁₋₆alkanoyl, C₁₋₆alkanoyloxy, N-(C₁₋₆alkyl)amino, N,N-(C₁₋₆alkyl)₂amino, C₁₋₆alkanoylamino, N-(C₁₋₆alkyl)carbamoyl, N,N-(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂carbamoyl, C₁₋₆alkylS(O)_a wherein a is 0 to 2, C₁₋₆alkoxycarbonyl, C₁₋₆alkoxycarbonylamino, N-(C₁₋₆alkyl)sulphamoyl, N,N-(C₁₋₆alkyl)₂sulphamoyl, C₁₋₆alkylsulphonylamino, C₁₋₆alkylsulphonyl-N-(C₁₋₆alkyl)amino, C₃₋₈cycloalkyl, C₃₋₈cycloalkylC₁₋₆alkyl, aryl, arylC₁₋₆alkyl, heterocyclic group, and (heterocyclic group)C₁₋₆alkyl; wherein R¹⁵ may be optionally substituted on carbon with one or more P groups,

and if said heterocyclic group contains an -NH- moiety, that nitrogen may be optionally substituted with an R group;

each R¹⁶ is the same or different and is selected from hydrogen and C₁₋₆alkyl;

R¹⁷ is selected from hydrogen, halo, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, fluoromethyl, difluoromethyl, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, amino, carboxy, carbamoyl, mercapto, sulphamoyl, ureido, C₁₋₆alkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl, C₂₋₆alkynyl, C₁₋₆alkoxy, C₁₋₆alkanoyl, C₁₋₆alkanoyloxy, *N*-(C₁₋₆alkyl)amino, *N,N*-(C₁₋₆alkyl)₂amino, C₁₋₆alkanoylamino, *N*-(C₁₋₆alkyl)carbamoyl, *N,N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂carbamoyl, *N*-(C₁₋₆alkyl)-*N*-(C₁₋₆alkoxy)carbamoyl, C₁₋₆alkylS(O)_a wherein a is 0 to 2, C₁₋₆alkoxycarbonyl, C₁₋₆alkoxycarbonylamino, *N*-(C₁₋₆alkyl)sulphamoyl, *N,N*-(C₁₋₆alkyl)₂sulphamoyl, sulphamoylamino, *N*-(C₁₋₆alkyl)sulphamoylamino, *N,N*-(C₁₋₆alkyl)₂sulphamoylamino, C₁₋₆alkylsulphonylamino, C₁₋₆alkylsulphonylaminocarbonyl, C₁₋₆alkylsulphonyl-*N*-(C₁₋₆alkyl)amino, and a group -E-F-G-H;

E and G are independently selected from a direct bond, -O-, -S-, -SO-, -SO₂-, -OC(O)-, -C(O)O-, -C(O)-, -NR^a-, -NR^aC(O)-, -C(O)NR^a-, -SO₂NR^a-, -NR^aSO₂-, -NR^aC(O)NR^b-, -OC(O)NR^a-, -NR^aC(O)O-, -NR^aSO₂NR^b-, -SO₂NR^aC(O)-, and -C(O)NR^aSO₂-; R^a and R^b are independently selected from hydrogen and C₁₋₆alkyl which is optionally substituted with a V group;

F is C₁₋₆alkylene optionally substituted by one or more Q or a direct bond;

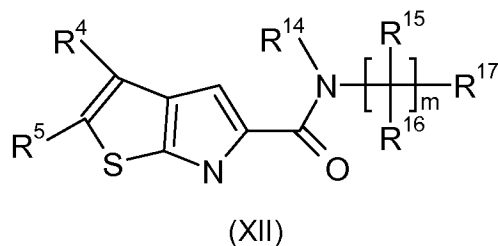
H is selected from aryl, C₃₋₈cycloalkyl, and heterocyclic group; wherein H may be optionally substituted on carbon with one or more S groups, and if said heterocyclic group contains an -NH- moiety, that nitrogen may be optionally substituted with a T group;

P, S, and Q are independently selected from halo, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, amino, carboxy, carbamoyl, mercapto, sulphamoyl, ureido, C₁₋₆alkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl, C₂₋₆alkynyl, C₁₋₆alkoxy, C₁₋₆alkanoyl, C₁₋₆alkanoyloxy, *N*-(C₁₋₆alkyl)amino, *N,N*-(C₁₋₆alkyl)₂amino, C₁₋₆alkanoylamino, *N*-(C₁₋₆alkyl)carbamoyl, *N,N*-(C₁₋₆alkyl)₂carbamoyl, *N*-(C₁₋₆alkyl)-*N*-(C₁₋₆alkoxy)carbamoyl, C₁₋₆alkylS(O)_a wherein a is 0 to 2, C₁₋₆alkoxycarbonyl, C₁₋₆alkoxycarbonylamino, *N*-(C₁₋₆alkyl)sulphamoyl, *N,N*-(C₁₋₆alkyl)₂sulphamoyl, C₁₋₆alkylsulphonylamino, C₁₋₆alkylsulphonyl-*N*-(C₁₋₆alkyl)amino, C₃₋₈cycloalkyl, aryl, and heterocyclic group; wherein P, S, and Q may be optionally independently substituted on carbon with one or more V groups and if said heterocyclic group contains an -NH- moiety, that nitrogen may be optionally substituted by a U group;

V is selected from halo, nitro, cyano, hydroxy, trifluoromethoxy, trifluoromethyl, amino, carboxy, carbamoyl, mercapto, sulphamoyl, methyl, ethyl, methoxy, ethoxy, acetyl, acetoxyl, methylamino, ethylamino, dimethylamino, diethylamino, *N*-methyl-*N*-ethylamino, acetylamino,

N-methylcarbamoyl, *N*-ethylcarbamoyl, *N,N*-dimethylcarbamoyl, *N,N*-diethylcarbamoyl, *N*-methyl-*N*-ethylcarbamoyl, methylthio, ethylthio, methylsulphinyl, ethylsulphinyl, mesyl, ethylsulphonyl, methoxycarbonyl, ethoxycarbonyl, *N*-methylsulphamoyl, *N*-ethylsulphamoyl, *N,N*-dimethylsulphamoyl, *N,N*-diethylsulphamoyl, *N*-methyl-*N*-ethylsulphamoyl, morpholino, morpholinocarbonyl, *N*-benzylcarbamoyl, and 4-hydroxypiperidinocarbonyl;

R, T, and U are independently selected from C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkanoyl, C₁₋₄alkylsulphonyl, C₁₋₄alkoxycarbonyl, carbamoyl, *N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)carbamoyl, *N,N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)carbamoyl, phenyl, benzyl, benzyloxycarbonyl, benzoyl, and phenylsulphonyl; wherein R, T, and U may be optionally independently substituted on carbon with one or more V groups ;
to produce a compound of formula (XII)



where R⁴, R⁵, R¹⁵, R¹⁶, R¹⁷, and m are as defined above, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or an *in vivo* hydrolysable ester thereof.